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THE CRUCIAL PERIOD IN THE BUILDING OF COMMUNISM

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THE CRUCIAL PERIOD IN THE BUILDING OF COMMUNISM

[Following is a translation of an unsigned article in the Russian-language periodical Molodoy Kommunist (Young Communist), Moscow, No. 4, April 1960, pages 17-31.]

A conversation with A. N. Kosygin, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The Seven-Year Plan is in its second year. All the Soviet people live for its concerns and its accomplishments. It is remarkable that the second year of the Seven-Year Plan is not exactly similar to the one outlined for its adoption. The enthusiasm for work of the Soviet people altered the state plan. The achievements reached in fulfilling the tasks of the first year of the plan and additional resources made it possible to envisage higher targets for 1960 than the ones adopted earlier in the plan. A firm foundation is being laid in 1960 for the fulfillment of the Seven-Year Plan ahead of schedule.

The achievements of labor during the first year of work have shown over and over again that the Seven-Year Plan is the vital concern of all Soviet people. Remember nationwide discussions of the Seven-Year Plan. Over 70 million people took active part in them; 4,672,000 workers came out with proposals, supplementary suggestions and remarks. The Young Communist League and all the young people of the country discussed actively the plan together with others. The plan now successfully carried out in practice is the result of an important and many-sided activity of the Party, Soviet, planning and economic organs, and the result of a tremendous creative work of the entire Soviet people.

With the Seven-Year Plan our country has entered upon a new important period of its development — that of the extensive building of communism. The Seven-Year Plan for developing the national economy is the first phase of this historic period. At the fourth meeting of the Fourth Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Comrade N. S. Khrushchev said in his address that now it is possible to outline in more detail a long-term plan for the development of the national economy of the USSR during the next 15-20 years. This long-term plan will provide for the fulfillment of great Lenin's wish for the country's over-all electrification, becoming the main pivot for the program of the extensive building of a communist society. During this period the key branches of industry of the USSR will increase their production manifold.

It is a great fortune to live and work in such a remarkable era. Millions of young men and women are building today the bright structure for the communist society.

The advent of the era of extensive communist building was prepared by all earlier development of our country. Soviet young men and women know that economy of our country is developing on the basis of a socialist planning. Already in the first few years of the Soviet rule, V. I. Lenin put forward brilliant ideas for the planning of a socialist economy and drew up the fundamental principles of socialist planning. He was the inspirer and organizer of the first long-term plan for the development of the national economy -- the GOERLO plan (State Commission for the Electrification of Russia). The Communist Party placed Lenin's ideas at the basis of the Five-Year Plan. Their successful implementation transformed our country into a strong socialist industrial and collective-farm power. The Seven-Year Plan realized at present by the Soviet people has no equals in its grandiose scale in the entire history of our state.

The chief problem of the long-term plan for the development of the USSR during this time is that of gaining the maximum time in the peaceful economic competition between socialism and capitalism. The decisive stage of competing with the capitalist world is under way; it is necessary to overtake and surpass the most highly developed capitalist countries not only in the total output of production, but also in production per capita of the population.

The entire Soviet People deeply believe that under the guidance of the Communist Party this task will be successfully fulfilled.

It is natural that the young builder of communism desires to know what is the basis for our confidence and pledge of success. It is the great advantage of the socialist system of economy over capitalist.

Socialism has eliminated private property at the expense of production and of exploitation of man by man as well as the exploiting classes. The society consists of free workers, whose relationships are characterized as relations of comradely collaboration and socialist mutual assistance. Periodic crises, unemployment and other manifestations characteristic of a capitalist society are foreign to socialist society.

In the peaceful economic competition with capitalism the decisive advantage was and is our advantage in the speed of economic development. It is known that at the beginning of the first Five-Year Plan, the Soviet Union was 50-100 years behind the most highly developed capitalist countries. We have overcome this lag in 10-12 years. Our national economy suffered great losses during the Second World War. Nevertheless, approximately 2 1/2 years after the end of the war, the Soviet Union restored the level of the prewar 1940 level of industrial production. During the next ten years, this level was exceeded by more than 4 times.

The pace of development of our industry is greatly superior to that of the most developed country in the capitalist world -- the United States of America.

In comparing the year 1959 with 1953, industrial output in the USA increased 11% during that time whereas in the USSR it increased 90%. During that period, industrial production per capita of the population increased only 0.3% in the USA, but it increased 71% in the USSR. The production of cast iron and steel and the extraction of coal increased 57-58% in the USSR; there was a decrease of 12-20% in the USA. The output of oil increased 154% in the USSR and 9% in the USA, and of cement 143% and 24%, respectively.

In 1959, the USSR produced more than the USA of iron and manganese ore, coal, asbestos, slate, window glass, prefabricated reinforced concrete constructions and parts, saw-timber, power transformers, electric locomotives, grain combines, wool tissues, sewing machines, sugar, fish, wheat, rye, barley, potatoes, flax fiber, sun-flower seed, milk and animal fat and wool.

The implementation of the outlined Seven-Year Plan speaks convincingly of the fact that the task of gaining the maximum amount of time in the competition with capitalism is being successfully fulfilled by the Soviet people. The results of 1959 and the work accomplished in 1960 show us that during these two years we have covered as much ground as the USA during a considerably longer period. For example, in that time our country increased the smelting of steel by 10 million tons, whereas the USA spent 12 years to obtain the same increase in the level of steel production. We will increase the output of electric energy by 56 million kilowatt-hours. Americans spent years for the same increase in their power output. In two years, the Soviet Union has increased the output of oil by 31 million tons, whereas the USA needed 9 years for that.

High rates of growth are a characteristic and determining feature of the Seven-Year Plan. In drawing up the Seven-Year Plan it was held in mind that its fulfillment should not be overstrained and that the initiative of the councils of national economy, enterprises, Party, trade-union, Young Communist League and other social organizations and wide masses of workers should not be tied in fulfilling the Seven-Year Plan. These considerations of the nation-wide initiative creativity have been fully justified today.

Industry has made a big step forward in one year of the plan. Industrial output increased more than 11% instead of 7.7% provided for in the plan. The provision was exceeded by almost 50 million rubles worth of industrial output. The entire industrial output of prerevolutionary Russia taken in today's value was smaller than this sum.

In many key branches of industry, the rates of development have greatly exceeded the previously planned indices. Thus, for instance, provision was made for increasing the smelting of steel by 4,100,000 tons in 1959 as compared with 1958; in fact, during the first year of the plan the smelting of steel increased 5 million tons. It was provided in the plan to increase the extraction of coal by 6.1 million tons; the actual output was 10,400,000 tons higher. The plan provided for 14.5 tons more of oil, actually the increase during the year was equal to 16.3 million tons. The power output increased by 28,600,000,000 kilowatt hours as against 22,400,000,000 kw. hr. provided for in the plan.

The Seven-Year Plan also advances victoriously in the unlimited collective and state farm fields.

One of the characteristics of the Seven-Year Plan is that it brings together the tempo of industrial and agricultural development. This creates a firm foundation of raw material resources for developing the light and food industry and for creating an abundance of consumer goods.

Workers in collective and state farms inspired by the decisions of the Party to develop further the agriculture of our country are competing today to fulfill the tasks of the Seven-Year Plan in less time, in 4 or 5 years. They intend to bring the output of meat and of other animal products per capita of the population close to the level of the USA. In our country, the output of animal butter per capita was greater than that of the USA. The USSR already for the second year has surpassed the USA in the total output of milk.

The Party proposes for one of the most important tasks the increase of grain by 10-11 billion puds per year. Competitions for fulfilling the Seven-Year Plan ahead of time, developing in villages, prove that the targets of the Seven-Year Plan will be reached before time in agriculture. Thus, for instance, it is intended to reach the target for the output of meat in quantities of 16 million tons per year by 1963.

The branches of industry, manufacturing consumer goods, will develop at a higher pace in the present plan. For instance, the average annual growth of cotton goods will exceed 2.2 times their growth in the previous seven-years; of knitted goods 2.1 times; and of shoes 1.5 times.

Every young worker, farm worker and employe must always bear in mind during their work that all our plans for the economic development of our country have one purpose -- to improve the life of people. National income, the growth of which reflects a general rise in the national economy and living standards of the people, has increased 15 times during the years of Soviet rule (computing per capita of the population). The Party envisages for the Soviet people to attain the highest standard of living in the world. The high rates of the continued growth of the national income convince us that this historic task will be successfully attained. In 1960 the national income increased about 9 percent. The real income of industrial and office workers will be more than double of that of 1940, and the income of peasants 2.5 times.

Social funds for consumption grow steadily each year; this is a communist way of increasing the well-being of workers. In 1960 the size of payments in cash and kind received by the population from the state revenue and the revenue of enterprises constitutes an enormous sum -- 244,000,000,000 rubles.

All the population receives free medical care at the present time; over 50 million workers and members of their families are studying in various state educational institutions and improving their qualifications in enterprises. The state pays pensions to 20 million people; 5 million children are taken care of in child homes, kindergartens and nurseries;

every year 5,600,000 children vacation in pioneer and tourist homes and sanatoria; 3,300,000 students receive scholarships and are provided with lodging; 7 million mothers of large families and unmarried mothers receive grants. Over 3 million workers rest in sanatoria and holiday homes every year at the expense of the state. Besides, the state spends large funds on the construction of dwellings, schools, medical institutions and cultural and welfare facilities.

During the current year the transfer of industrial and office workers in all branches of the national economy to a 6 or 7 hour work day will be completed. This will be a new great victory of socialism. It is significant that in our country a shorter work day is not accompanied by a reduction in wages but by a further increase.

Our achievements, a successful implementation of the Seven-Year Plan, are all the more gratifying since they are an important contribution to the development of socialist system in the world. The great advantages of this system over the capitalist are quite obvious. Daily and hourly they are affirmed by life. In 1958 socialist countries increased the volume of industrial output 5 times as compared with the volume of production in their territory in 1937. If we take into consideration that, in 1937, the USSR was the only socialist country then the volume of industrial output of the socialist economy system increased about 10 times during the years 1937-1958. The volume of industrial production in the capitalist countries during that period was less than double.

What do these facts prove? They prove that socialism is assuredly winning a victory in the peaceful economic competition with capitalism.

Each new achievement of the Seven-Year Plan strengthens the confidence of the Soviet people and of honest people in the world in the victory of the forces of peace over those of war. It cannot be otherwise because the Soviet Union is a recognized stronghold of peace and democracy, a tireless fighter for peace and friendship among the peoples. The historic visit of Comrade Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchev to the United States of America and the proposals of the Soviet Union for general and complete disarmament have to a considerable degree contributed to the weakening of international tension and have strengthened in the hearts of the people the hope of establishing a lasting peace.

A new decision of reducing the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union made at the fifth meeting of the Fourth Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and Comrade N. S. Khrushchev's report given at this session have again proved to the entire world that our country is consistently and unflinchingly pursuing the policy of peace, demonstrating its love for peace by concrete actions.

We need peace for implementing into life the grandiose plans for the building of communism. With such a range of peaceful labor, which exists in our country, the state can be interested only in maintaining peace. Our people are decisively supporting the consistent and unflinching policy of external peace of the Soviet Union, responding to the hope of not only the Soviet people but of the whole of mankind.

Principal Targets of the Seven-Year Plan

The high tempo and scale of production growth in the Seven-Year Plan have been based not only on the new principle of distributing industry but also on the important qualitative changes in the structure of all the branches of the national economy of the country. These qualitative changes provide for a maximum economy of labor and of material resources and an acceleration of economic development in the USSR; in the final score this will permit us to gain time in economic competition with the leading capitalist countries.

With a priority growth of heavy industry the Seven-Year Plan envisages first of all an accelerated development of the country's power resources. A considerable increase in the output of the chemical industry, metallurgy and other energy consuming branches of industry will be assured by a corresponding increase in the output of power. The use of electric power in industry will increase 2.2 times during the seven years with the growth of industrial output increasing 1.8 times.

Many thermal power stations operated by cheap coal, natural gas and oil are under construction during the current plan. This will permit us to attain a maximum introduction of new energy power within a shorter period and with less capital investment. At the same time, the construction of hydroelectric power stations continues. About 58-60 million kilowatt-hours of new power will be reached during the plan. This will exceed significantly the putting into operation of power during the whole existence of the Soviet state.

The structure of the fuel balance will change radically primarily through developing the extraction of gas and oil, which will be very profitable for the national economy. On the average, the cost of oil to the USSR is 3 times less than that of coal. The advantage of gas in this relation is still more considerable. Thus, the increase in the extraction of oil and gas will require considerably less expenditure than the extraction of coal. According to calculations of the plan, the replacement of coal with the fuel of natural gas and oil will constitute a total saving of tens of billions of rubles.

The development of the oil and gas industry will also secure a source of raw materials for our chemical industry, which is developing extremely rapidly in the Seven-Year Plan. Total gross output of the chemical industry will increase almost 3 times. The chief problem in this branch is to create a powerful and many-sided development of the synthetic materials industry. Production of all types of chemical fibers will increase 4 times; included in that number the output of more valuable synthetic fibers will increase 14 times, and of plastic and synthetic resins almost 7 times.

The realization of such a tremendous program for producing synthetic materials will make it possible to accelerate the technical progress in many branches of the national economy and to increase the output of merchandise for the population -- tissues, furs and finished

articles such as shoes and various household articles. In quality and external appearance articles manufactured from synthetic materials are as good as those from natural materials and, sometimes, even superior to them and cheaper.

If we examine the rates of development of different branches of our industry then we will see that heavy industry is expanding very rapidly. During the 42 years of Soviet rule the gross output of heavy industry and metal-working industry increased 273 times. But, in spite of this, gross output in heavy industry must increase considerably during these years and a particular attention must be given to a further technical progress in machine building.

The more we advance on the way to communism the more machinery we need, which must be more improved and productive. Machine-building is the foundation of technical progress. For this reason, new very high demands are made on machine-building from all the branches of the national economy with regard to the quality and technology of machines.

The Seven-Year Plan is characterized by its accelerated rate of development of industrial branches which will ensure technical progress in the national economy -- chemistry, electrical engineering, instrument making and electronics. More than half of the productivity of labor provided for in the Seven-Year Plan must be achieved through the introduction of new techniques. Not less than 1300 automatic belt lines will be installed in the country's plants.

In any branch of the national economy we can see an enormous economic uplift due to mechanization and automation. For instance, in industry and transport almost 4 million people are engaged in loading and unloading work. We can imagine how many of these workers can be transferred to a direct participation in production when many stages of loading and unloading will become mechanized and automatized.

A combined mechanization and automation of such gigantic enterprises of ferrous metal industry as Magnitorskii, Kuznetskii, Nizhme-Tagil'skiy combines and Dzerzhinskii's plant will provide annually an additional output of about 900,000 tons of cast iron, 1,200,000 tons of steel and 930,000 tons of rolled metal. To produce such a quantity of metals large capital investments would have been required and an additional hiring of about 15,000 workers. Expenditures for automation of these enterprises will be covered in less than 2 years.

As we know automation in the socialist system radically changes the character of human labor, makes his work conditions healthy, contributes to the growth of workers' qualifications, does away with the distinction between physical and mental work and is a deciding factor in raising the material well-being of workers.

Speaking at a meeting of the builders of the Bratsk State Power Station (GES) Comrade N. S. Khrushchev said that the time is not far away when the people of our country will work 3 to 4 hours per day as a result of further development of industry, technical progress and

automation. Man will guide intricate machinery and mechanisms and will produce considerably more goods in that short time than at present. This will provide a more complete satisfaction of the needs of the country and of every citizen of communist society.

The situation is different under communism. Under our socialist system the development of technology lightens the life and labor of workers whereas in the capitalist world technical progress, mechanization and, in particular, automation of production bring to the workers a bigger exploitation and mass unemployment. Enterprises introduce automation for purposes of competing and obtaining additional gains. We know that this is always accompanied by an increased exploitation of workers. Automation in capitalist industry signifies the loss of work for millions of workers.

The Soviet people are not threatened by exploitation or unemployment. They are delivered forever from the terrors of capitalism. Consequently, it is not accidental that all our people support actively and enthusiastically decisions of the Communist Party directed to the further mechanization and automation of industry. Patriotic undertakings of the Young Communist League and young people, supervising the most important objects of industrial automation are widely known.

This supervision speaks not only of the patriotism of young people but also of their high general level of education and technology. They are able now to participate in the solution of difficult problems, requiring much knowledge. Today our people possess this knowledge. For this reason the participation of young people in automation or in solving other fundamental problems of the Seven-Year Plan can actually be effective, providing a member of the Young Communist League is able to raise and organize groups of young men and women. This has been done in taking the virgin land by storm, the construction of the Young Communist League mines in the Donets coal-fields and the building of blast furnaces.

Our Long-Term Development

Industry is marching east -- this is one of the features of the Seven-Year Plan. More than 40 percent of total capital investments for the Seven-Year Plan have been allocated to the eastern regions of the country.

If we were to compare the map of our motherland in 1959 with that of what it will be in 1965, at the beginning of the plan and at the end, then it will become clear immediately to what an extent the fulfillment of the plan's targets will change the face of the country. In the "Control Figures for the Development of the National Economy for 1959-1965" particular attention is given to a further exploitation of natural resources in the eastern regions of the USSR.

This is a continuation and development of one of Lenin's ideas for socialist planning. Already in 1918, V. I. Lenin said that the plan for the country's economic development must include a rational distribution of industry with the consideration of the nearness of raw materials

and minimum loss of labor between the processing of raw materials and the subsequent stages in their working up until the finished product is obtained. We follow exactly these directions in assimilating resources in the eastern regions of our country. The spaciousness of our Mother-land is immense. Its lands conceal countless riches, particularly in the eastern regions which have been less prospected than the lands in the central regions of the country. By creating industry in the eastern regions it means that it is brought nearer to the sources of raw materials and fuel which undoubtedly has important economic advantages. By the end of the Seven-Year Plan the eastern regions of the country, including the Ural, Siberia, Far East, Kazakhstan and Central Asia, will produce approximately half of total Soviet Union production of cast iron, steel, rolled metal, coal and electric power. It was only recently that production in these regions constituted a very insignificant part in the total production of the country. In Siberia and Kazakhstan the output of power will increase 3.3-3.5 times. In the Ural, the Chelyabinskaya Oblast alone will smelt more cast iron by 1965 than France. The extraction of oil in the Ural will grow 1.8-2.2 times.

Already today a third huge metallurgical base is rising close to the iron ore deposits recently discovered in Siberia and Kazakhstan.

The nonferrous metallurgy is rapidly developing on the basis of rich deposits in the regions of Kazakhstan, Central Asia, Ural, Zabaykal'ye. New deposits of cheap coal serve as a basis for a big development of the power industry in Siberia. In several eastern regions of our country the oil and gas industry have been created and are successfully rising their tempo. A new gas industry center is rising in Uzbekistan. The accelerated expansion of the chemical industry made it one of the leading branches in the national economy of the East, including the Central Asia republics.

The enumeration of the main trends of industrial development in the eastern regions of the country speaks of great changes, taking place in them. These are only a few specific examples of how the plan is being realized today.

In Kazakhstan Sokolovsko-Sarbayskiy mining mill, the largest combine in the country, will start operating during the period of 1959-1965. It will produce annually a huge quantity of iron ore -- 19 million tons -- and will supply ore to the growing ferrous metallurgy of Ural and Kazakhstan.

Every young person must know the importance of aluminum in the building of machines, automobiles, tractors, transportation and ships and in construction and manufacturing of consumer goods -- in one word, practically in all the major branches of the national economy. Now a new huge aluminum industry center is rising in the Krasnoyarskiy Kray. What was the deciding factor for its location? It was large deposits of valuable raw material nephelinite and of cheap coal and the possibility of using electric power from the Krasnoyarskaya GES. The combination of these conditions will make it possible to produce here a less expensive aluminum.

Diamond mining industry is rising in the Yakut ASSR. Huge natural resources concealed in the bowels of the earth come to serve the Soviet man. Deposits in this area are so rich that the output of national diamonds will rise about 15-16 times by 1965 as compared with that of 1958.

But Krasnoyarsk aluminum and Yakut diamonds are only a small portion of all the countless riches of Siberia. As far back as 200 years ago, M. V. Lomonosov wrote: "Russian power to grow will be Siberia." Today the prophesy of the genial Russian scientist comes true -- the Seven-Year Plan puts at the disposal of the Soviet man the riches of Siberian resources. To master them successfully thousands and millions of strong hands are needed as well as bright inquiring minds. That is the reason why our youth is so attracted to the new construction in Siberia. Hundreds of thousands of our young men and women are already working there, but Siberia calls for new armies of young patriots. During the Seven-Year Plan about million young men and women will migrate east; Siberia will become the youngest area in the world in the average age of its inhabitants. Just think what limitless opportunities open to young men and women for using their abilities and putting into action their energy!

Every young man entering into life usually faces the questions of where to go to work, in which branch of work to specialize and how to go about it? Look what an opportunity opens in Siberia for the solution of these questions. We can only envy the young men and women who start their way in life today, in our fervent everyday working life filled with the inspiration of communist creation.

It has been calculated that the length of Siberian rivers is equal to 1 million kilometers and Siberian forests could cover all the countries of Western Europe. The Siberia of tomorrow is the Krasnoyarsk GES, the largest hydroelectric station in the world with a power of 5 million kw.; the Bratsk GES with a power of 4 1/2 million kw.; the thermal power stations of a new type never seen before; the gigantic coal pits where the cheapest coal is mined by an open method; the huge aluminum combines; and the gigantic grain elevators unequaled in the whole world.

Our scientists discover more and more natural wealth in Siberia. Magnesium and titanium, the vital metals of our century, are found in Siberia. Magnesium is used in aviation; it is lighter than aluminum. Titanium is the metal of intraplanetary space. It is lighter than iron and twice as resistant. It is impervious to corrosion and resists the action of acids, alkalis and salts. We will extract much of this metal in Siberia during the seven years.

Today Siberia represents not only the richest natural warehouse but is also a new scientific center. Siberian scientific institutes are equipped with the best apparatus of any country. Interesting life, productive learning and fascinating work await the young builder of new socialist Siberia. The young men and women should go to work in Siberia and other eastern regions of the country with more willingness; these regions face a big future and unimaginable prospects for development.

New Phase of Socialist Competition

The struggle for fulfilling the Seven-Year Plan ahead of time does not simply imply a struggle for further development of our economy. It is the struggle for a quicker approach of the triumph of communism, the most just social structure on earth. This is why new people and new relationships between socialist workers rise in the course of this struggle. Take the movement of collective and shock workers of communist labor. It has an important significance not only in attaining productive success but (and this is very important) in forming the new man of communist society.

The period of a large-scale building of communism presupposes further changes towards labor. The question concerns the communist principle of subordinating individual interests to those of the entire society, the combination of high moral principles in everyday life with the leading role in production.

Competitions for the title of collective of communist labor includes a whole complex of commitments embracing production, labor, social work, studies and everyday life. Consequently, the initiative of the Young Communist League and young men and women in starting competitions for the title of collective of communist labor opens wide prospects for the development along the lines of communism.

Competitions for the title of brigades and shock-workers of communist labor represent new phases in socialist contests. As our movement advances to communism other more complete forms of socialist attitude will develop.

By their creative initiative, example and organized and purposeful work brigades and shock-workers of communist labor open new ways for increasing the productivity of labor. This is one of the fundamental factors contributing to the fulfillment of the Seven-Year Plan ahead of schedule. The participants of this movement serve as a living example to others, inviting them to follow. Their personal example helps the others in making progress, working more productively and thinking creatively of their cause. It is important that each one of our young workers is aware of his place in the structure and works creatively, consciously and with all best effort, following the example of members of the communist brigades. Once we have achieved this there will be no people working without putting their best efforts and with indifference to the people's cause. The greatness of tasks in the Seven-Year Plan demands that all the Soviet people and every young man and woman clearly see the prospects for our movement forward and understand that communism can win only when there is inspired labor of all the people. V. I. Lenin taught us that the more extensive the transformation we wish to carry out, the more we must raise the interest and conscious attitude towards it and convince more and more millions and tens of millions of people of this.

In an address at the June Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union it was said as follows: "The grains of communist labor raised by our Party give more and more wonderful and productive fruit." How well these remarkable words express our reality where each day brings glad tidings of new undertakings of people in the course of our struggle for the Seven-Year Plan! We can say today that our society has reached heights where the new attitude of communism to labor grows constantly.

Progressive experience is our people's wealth. It is unthinkable to imagine the fulfillment and overfulfillment of our national economic plans without introducing the latest achievements of science and technology and progressive experience of innovators. We have many different forms of spreading the experience of front-rank workers.

During the days of the great upsurge in labor, Valentina Gaganova's remarkable initiative was born. Thousands of her followers left their front-rank posts in industry and agriculture for backward enterprises. They applied their experience, knowledge and labor to raise the standards of lagging enterprises to the level of the leading ones. It is understandable that it is important for the fulfillment of the plan to spread this initiative widely.

A nationwide movement for economy and thrift is a very important factor, greatly contributing to the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the Seven-Year Plan. The larger the scale of production the more significant could be the waste if we do not conduct our work in an economic way. One percent or one minute appear to be very insignificant in today's scale of production.

One percent of steel smelted in 1960 is equal to 650,000 tons. This is enough to construct such an important hydroelectric station as the Volzhskaya GES imeni V. I. Lenin. Each percent of overfulfilled plans for the extraction of coal in 1960 will provide for our country additional fuel sufficient for producing about 6 billion kw-hr. of power. How specifically can one represent the amount of power measured in several billions of kw-hr? The following example can demonstrate this to us.

One percent of power output in 1960 is equal to all its output in 1925 (2,900,000,000 kw-hr). This is sufficient for an uninterrupted work of 15 large machine-building plants during one year.

If we take any branch of industrial production we can see that one percent plays an important role. Thus, one percent of cotton saved during its weaving in all textile mills during 1960 could give an additional quantity of tissue sufficient for not less than 12 million pairs of men's underwear and 12 million women's dresses.

One minute of the second year of the plan equals 123 tons of steel; a sufficient quantity for building 11 88-horsepower tractors at the Chelyabinsk Tractor Plant. In textile enterprises one minute of labor equals about 20,000 meters of different tissues.

Minutes saved and overproduction bring nearer to us the time of achievements outlined in the Seven-Year Plan and communism. That is why the chief task of the state is to fight for saving minutes and to economize. The movement for economizing electric power, non-ferrous metals and other material valuables represents the cause of all our people. The Young Communist League and young men and women behave correctly when they actively help the older people in the accomplishment of this task. To teach workers from their young age to have a conscious and communist attitude towards the people's wealth is the duty of the Young Communist League.

The Young Communist League and all the young men and women of the country are taking an active part in building major projects of the plan. As we know, the Young Communist League is heading the construction of 100 major enterprises of the key branches of industry. Thirty undertakings of metallurgic and mining industry have been designated as shock constructions of the Young Communist League. Among them there are such enterprises as the Karaganda Metallurgical Plant, which will be a high-capacity base for the ferrous metallurgy of Kazakhstan; the Chelyabinsk Tube-Rolling Mill and other plants. The mines of the Kursk Magnetic anomaly are also designated as the shock construction job of the Young Communist League. They will serve as a raw materials base for metallurgical plants of Central Russia and of the eastern Donets Basin.

The Young Communist League has taken leadership in building 11 major projects of the oil and gas industry, including the two largest oil refining plants (Ryazan' and Yararoslavl') and three gas mains, which will supply gas to the Byelorussian, Ukrainian, Povolozh'ye and Ural regions.

Nine electric power stations are shock constructions of the Young Communist League, including the Bratsk GES, Kremenchug and two large lines transmitting electricity from Stalingrad to Moscow and from Bratsk to Irkutsk.

Among the 28 chemical industry projects designated as shock constructions of the Young Communist League are included the gigantic chemical projects of the Barnaul Plant of Synthetic Fiber, the Ryazan' Plant of Artificial Fiber and the Kuybyshev and Omsk Plants of Synthetic Rubber.

Nine projects of the coal industry in the eastern regions of the country and in Kazakhstan are also shock projects of the Young Communist League. This implies the construction of mines and pits for the extraction of coke coal to supply the ferrous metallurgy plants of the eastern regions of the country.

Our people are proud that the young people do not separate their words from deeds. New projects of the plan come into being one after the other. The "Dnepropetrov-Young Communist League" blast-furnace was the first to be completed. It was erected in less than 6 months. Such an accelerated tempo was unknown here and abroad. At the "Azovstal" plant, the "Donets-Young Communist League" blast-furnace started to blow 34 days before the time fixed by the state.

The majority of shock Young Communist League projects should be completed in the first few years of the plan. It is obvious that the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the plan depends to a great deal on the successful accomplishment of commitments taken by the young men and women.

It is commendable that the Y.C.L. and young men and women in villages actively follow the example of working youth. The Party is observing with satisfaction the great creative work carried out by the Y.C.L. organizations and young men and women in villages to develop further agriculture. In the resolution of the December Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU it was noted that the Y.C.L. organization of the Ryazan' Oblast sent more than 40,000 young men and women to live-stock farms where they are working as milkers, pig-herders, veal-herders, shepherds, brigade heads and farm managers. These young people have greatly contributed to the labor exploits of agricultural workers of the Ryazanskaya Oblast. Thanks to them the production of meat in the Ryazanskaya Oblast went up 3.8 times in 1959 and 3 times more meat was sold to the state as compared with 1958.

Each young Soviet worker should always remember that the historic decisions of the Twenty-First Congress of the Communist Party, which outlined the Seven-Year Plan, included also the young factory and collective farm worker. In making plans for further developing the national economy, the party was counting on his patriotism, the strength of his young hands and his inquiring active mind.

It is to you, young builders of communism, that are addressed the words of the parental Communist Party in the decisions of the Twenty-First Congress.

"At the new phase of the development of our state, the Y.C.L. and all the Soviet young men and women face greater tasks. The grandiose program of the building of communism opens a wide scope for the growth of creative initiative and of independent action on the young men and women. The Y.C.L. and all the young men and women of our country must undertake more energetically the mastering of natural resources of Siberia, the North, Far East and Kazakhstan. The Y.C.L. has to undertake a bigger and more active participation in industry, construction of dwellings and cultural facilities, fighting for further developing socialist agriculture and taking leadership in the major projects of heavy industry. The Y.C.L. must continue to serve as an example of highly productive self-denying labor to all the young people."

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